



## Conservation Practice Overview

July 2021

### Vegetative Barrier (Code 601)

A vegetative barrier is a permanent strip of stiff, dense vegetation established along the general contour of slopes or across concentrated flow areas.

#### Practice Information

Vegetative barriers are used to reduce sheet and rill erosion, manage water flow, stabilize steep slopes, trap sediment, or reduce ephemeral gully erosion.



This practice applies to all eroding areas, including cropland, grazing land, forest land, farmsteads, mined land, and construction sites.

When used to reduce sheet and rill erosion, vegetative barriers are established along the contour and at intervals necessary to meet erosion reduction goals.

When used to control ephemeral gully erosion, vegetative barriers are established across concentrated flow areas perpendicular to the direction of water flow.

Recommended plant species must be adapted to local soil and climate conditions; be easily established, long-lived, and manageable; and must maintain the necessary stiffness to meet the intended purpose.

#### Common Associated Practices

NRCS Conservation Practice Standard (CPS) Vegetative Barrier (Code 601) is commonly applied with other conservation practices such as NRCS CPS Pest Management Conservation System (Code 595), Nutrient Management (Code 590), Conservation Crop Rotation (Code 328), and residue management practices.

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.